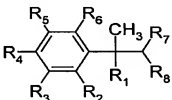


AMENDED CLAIMS

[received by the International Bureau on 04 July 2003 (04.07.03);
original claims 2, and 4-11 amended]

Claims:

2. A liquid composition comprising from 0.1 to 20% by weight of a dye having a solid state absorption band maximum in the spectral region from 300 to 800 nm, from 0.5

to 79.9% by weight of a compound of formula  (I), wherein R₁ to

R₈ are H, CH₃ or C₂H₅, with the proviso that the total number of carbon atoms in R₁ to R₈ is 1 or 2, from 20% to 99.4% by weight of a linear, branched and/or cyclic non-aromatic hydrocarbon, and optionally from 0 to 79.4% by weight of one or more further components, all based on the weight of the solution, and the weight ratio of hydrocarbon to compound of formula (I) is from 4 : 1 to 99 : 1.

4. A composition of claim 3, wherein the compound of formula (I) is sec-butylbenzene, tert-butylbenzene, 2-pentylbenzene, isopent-2-ylbenzene or tert-amylbenzene, or a mixture thereof, preferably sec-butylbenzene or tert-butylbenzene, most preferred tert-butylbenzene.

5. A composition of claim 1, 2, 3 or 4, wherein the dye is a phthalocyanine, preferably a nonpolar phthalocyanine, most preferred a copper or palladium phthalocyanine.

6. A composition of any claim 1 to 5, wherein the hydrocarbon is alicyclic, and the weight ratio of hydrocarbon to compound of formula (I) is preferably from 17 : 1 to 76 : 1.

7. A composition of claim 6, wherein the hydrocarbon is selected from cycloalkanes substituted by one or more C₁-C₄alkyl groups and/or having a boiling point of ≤170 °C, preferably methylcyclohexane, 1,2-dimethyl cyclohexane or ethyl cyclohexane.

8. A process for manufacturing an optical recording medium comprising a substrate with a grooved side, a recording layer overlying the substrate on the grooved side, a

reflective layer overlying the recording layer, and a protective layer overlying the reflective layer, wherein the recording layer is produced by coating a liquid composition of any claim 1 to 7.

9. An optical recording medium comprising a substrate with a grooved side, a recording layer overlying the substrate on the grooved side, a reflective layer overlying the recording layer, and a protective layer overlying the reflective layer, characterized in that it has a groove filling value GF_v of from 360 to 600.

10. An optical recording medium of claim 9, wherein the groove in the substrate (d_{sub}) is from 200 to 225 nm deep and from 580 to 700 nm, preferably from 620 to 680 nm wide at half depth, the dye film average optical density is from 0.21 to 0.27, preferably from 0.21 to 0.25, and the depth in dye layer d_{abs} lies in the range from 100 to 125 nm.

11. An optical recording medium comprising a substrate with a groove and a recording layer, characterised in that the groove filling grade GF_g is from 85 to 100, preferably from 90 to 100, most preferred from 95 to 100.